

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the forgoing, claims 1, 4, 14, 17, 20, 30, 34, 37-47 and 50 have been amended, claims 11, 12, 15, 27, 28, 31, 44, 45 and 48 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein new claim 43 has been added. Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16-26, 30, 32-43, 46, 47 and 49-57 are pending and under consideration.

**I. Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 4, 13-15, 20, 29-31, 37, 46-48 and 52-57 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 15 and intervening claims 11 and 12, and claims 11, 12 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claim 4 has been rewritten in dependent form including the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 3, and claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of base claim 1.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 31 and intervening claims 27 and 28, and claims 27, 28 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claim 20 has been rewritten in dependent form including the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 19, and claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of base claim 17.

Claim 34 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 48 and intervening claims 44 and 45, and claims 44, 45 and 48 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claim 37 has been rewritten in dependent form including the limitations of base claim 34 and intervening claim 36, and claim 47 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of base claim 34.

Finally, claim 50 has been amended to correspond to allowable amended claim 17. Accordingly, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

## II. Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to those matters.

Respectfully submitted,

STADLER, Robert W. et al.

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